



- ① home
- ② email centre
- ③ inbox

Message 4

Message Options ▼

Title: Re: [FWD: Quito's Declaration]
Date: 03/30/01 09:53:13
Sender: dken@globalnet.co.uk "Donald Kenrick"
To: ustibe.n@ntlworld.com ustibe n

THE

OTHER SON OF

PACHA MAMA - MOTHER EARTH
CONTINENTAL MEETING OF THE ROMA PEOPLE OF AMERICAS
Quito (Ecuador) , March 12 - 16 , 2001

The following organizations and Kumpania Rom , assembled at the event :
" The Roma people : The other son of Pacha Mama - Mother Earth,
Continental Meeting
of the Roma people of Americas ", held in Quito, Equador from the 12 to the
16 March, 2001, under the heading "The Forum of the Americas for Diversity
and Plurality".

CONSIDERING:

- That distinct kumpanias and Roma family groups have been living in various countries of the Americas from the colonial period to the present day, and that our presence as a people predates the creation of many of these States
- That collectively the Roma people have a long presence and history in almost all the countries of the Americas
- That our contributions to the process of the formation of the nationalities of these various countries of the Americas have not been acknowledged by Gadge society.
- That the Roma People have never pretended to dominate or impose their culture upon other peoples and, contrarily, been characterized by their respect of diversity and plurality.
- That the Roma population in the Americas is over 4 millions and still today immersed in invisibility.
- That throughout history , yesterday like today, our people have been victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance which brought other cultures to consider us in the worst and pejorative manner.
- That when there is talk about diversity of peoples and cultures of the American Continent , our existence is systematically forgotten.
- That we are a thousand year old people with our history, traditions and a proper language and because of that have a right to self determination.
- That we don't accept the label of " ethnic minority" given to us in some international issues, because it doesn't reflect our reality as a dominated people .
- That we claim and reevendicate the full recognition of our collective rights , constantly denied and violated and ,
- ..That , if our people do not have,as an option,a project of a proper State, that doesn't represent a obstacle to being properly represented in all internationals levels,and to participate in the U.N.

The Roma organizations and Kumpania of the Americas express here, their devoted committment to bring

DEMANDS :

1. Urge the States and Governments to recognize the right to self determination for the Roma people.
2. Urge the States and Governments to recognize, promote and guarantee the collective rights of the Roma people.
3. Defend, recover and value the history, the ethnic and cultural traditions of our people and protect also the inherited common law as well as the cultural and intellectual heritage of the Roma people.
4. Eradicate any form of racism, racial discrimination, xenophoby and related intolerance towards children , youth, men, women, or elder Roma people .
5. Promote ourselves and inform the Gadge society , about the traditional knowledge and wisdom of the Roma people as well as our ethnic and cultural values.
6. Urge the States and Governments of the Americas to apply the international legal justice standard to protect the rights of the Roma people.
7. Work to develop spaces for the self determination and self government of the Roma people urging the recognition of our own authorities, and to validate our special jurisdiction, the Kriss.
8. Facilitate the creation of intercultural opportunities as a way to promote the future autonomy of the Roma people of the Americas.
9. Ask the States and Governments of the Americas to consult fairly with the Roma people when initiating " development plans" that affect their culture, lives, identity and fundamental needs, and install the requirements for the full development of our institutions, economy, education and accreditation.
10. Urge the States and Governments to guarantee the establishment of bilingual and intercultural educational programs suited to the Roma people , as well as giving access to our youth and women to middle and higher education in the best conditions.
11. Demand that the States and the governments of the Americas provide Health care alternatives for the Roma people which guarantee access to active, convenient, compatable and quality Health care services , whose service ensures the promotion, prevention , treatment and rehabilitation of health.
12. Make sure that the medical plans and Health programs are aware of the knowledge, practices, and uses of the different forms of diagnostic and treatments proper for the Roma people.
13. Urge the States and Governements of the Continent to guarantee the freely consented information for Roma people, through our authorities and representative institutions , each time that projects of development , legislature or administrative measures will affect us directly.
14. Facilitate the fair , permanent and adaqueate access , to the mass medias of social communication for the Roma people.
15. Demand the access of Roma representatives into different levels of participation created by governmental institutions and public affairs.
16. To create and consolidate the institutions and proper committees that the Roma people will need for the recognition of our collective rights in the Americas and the World.
17. Create mecanisms which permit contacts, relations and exchanges between the Roma of the Americas, and with all the international Roma communities.
18. Insure that the nomadic and itinerant forms of life, which some Roma family groups are conserving, be maintained; that States and Governments create special places, encampments and rules, which facilitate the free transit over the interntional borders of the Continent.
19. Request that the States and Governments recognize refugee status to the Roma people and draw public policies, programs and adequate actions to assist the Roma who, for political, social, cultural, ethnic, religious and economic reasons are obliged to look for refuge and immigrate to the Americas.

Based on these legitimate demands,

WE REQUEST